

SPMAGTF-CR-CC Commander's Hazing Policy Statement




The Marine Corps Order on Hazing, (MCO 1700.28), defines hazing as "any conduct whereby one military member, regardless of service or rank, causes another military member, regardless of service or rank, to suffer or be exposed to an activity which is cruel, abusive, humiliating, or oppressive."

Simply put, HAZING IS PROHIBITED, and any conduct that is counter to our core values will not be tolerated. The fighting lineage of our Corps is replete with examples of distinguished and heroic actions by our Marines and sailors; the cornerstone of our future success rests on the individual and collective readiness of our Marines and sailors, and any actions, by leadership or from within our ranks, that can be construed as hazing or abusive erodes our collective readiness and degrades our cohesion. Hazing has no place in our culture and serves no legitimate purpose in our service to the Nation.

No Marine or sailor may engage in hazing or consent to acts of hazing being committed upon them. Allegations of hazing will be taken seriously, investigated to the last detail, and those involved will be held responsible for their actions. No one in a leadership role may, by act, word, or omission, condone or ignore hazing if he or she knows or reasonably should have known that hazing may occur. More specifically, no Marine or sailor will direct—verbal or implied—any other Marine or sailor to perform any form of incentive PT. No Marine or sailor will direct—verbal or implied—any other Marine or sailor to undergo any type of initiation or "rite of passage" to any unit or organization. Furthermore, it is every Marine and sailor's absolute duty to immediately report any allegations or indications of hazing and there should be no fear of reprisal for doing so. Bottom-line, I have a zero-tolerance policy, and violators will be prosecuted.

The Marines and sailors of Special Purpose Marine Air Ground Task Force – Crisis Response – Central Command are our most precious asset, and we will protect them through fair and unbiased treatment. We are brothers in arms, and it is our duty to ensure every Marine and sailor is treated with dignity and respect.


J. M. BARGERON
Colonel
U.S. Marine Corps